

# NEWS & VIEWS



SUMMER EDITION 2015



## Welcome to all our new readers



Joyce Greaves, CEO/Manager

A warm welcome to our new customers who have recently taken up Direct Payments from Knowsley Council, particularly those of you who have transferred from the Independent Living Fund.

Published every three months, our Newsletter is for all users of Knowsley's Direct Payments. We hope you find the contents interesting and informative.

We publish the newsletters on our website where you will find links to all the back-issues. Go to

[www.kdc.org.uk](http://www.kdc.org.uk) and click on the pink 'Direct Payments' button.



Please feel free to contact me, Joyce Greaves on **480 4090** to share your views and comments and ideas for future issues. In the meantime, I hope to meet you soon at one of our support group meetings (see Page 3) or a future workshop/information session.

## Annual Summer Tea Party



Thanks go to all our volunteers and supporters who turned out for our 'Summer' Tea Party last month. Despite the cold and windy weather, we raised more than £600 on the day.

The event marked National Learning Disability Week and the money raised is being used to

help local people with learning disabilities gain skills and experience to speak up and have a say about what's important in their lives.

Congratulations to all those who won prizes in our raffles and tombola and sincere thanks go out to the people and local businesses who donated so generously.

You can keep up to date with all the latest news and information via our website.

Visit us at [www.kdc.org.uk](http://www.kdc.org.uk).



Follow us on twitter.



Make us a friend on Facebook.



# Meet the Team

The KDC Direct Payments Team has a wealth of knowledge and experience and is always on hand with help and information as well as the answers to any questions you might have.

## Andy Gilbert

Independent Living Coordinator  
andy.gilbert@kdc.org.uk  
Tel: 0151 480 8873



## Colette Salt

Independent Living Coordinator  
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Tel: 0151 480 8873



## Simone Stein

Customer Finance Officer  
simone.stein@kdc.org.uk  
Tel: 0151 480 8873



## Martin Neary

Business Support - KMBC  
martin.neary@kdc.org.uk  
Tel: 0151 480 8873



**For names and contact details of your Payroll Team - see back page.**



### This month, we welcomed Michelle Allan as a permanent member of staff.

Previously assisting the team as a volunteer administrator, Michelle was invited to apply for the new part-time Customer Finance Assistant role and following a successful interview, she joined the team on 21 July



**Knowsley Information Service**

## Knowsley Council launches new information site

You can now get help about a wide range of subjects by logging onto a brand new website: [www.knowsleyinfo.co.uk](http://www.knowsleyinfo.co.uk)

The site is easy to use and offers useful information and links to services (including KDC) for people living in Knowsley. Take a look and let us know what you think.



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**Tel: 0151 480 8873**

Email: [andy.gilbert@kdc.org.uk](mailto:andy.gilbert@kdc.org.uk) Web: [www.kdc.org.uk](http://www.kdc.org.uk)

# Volunteer of the Year!



**Debbie Harry** (pictured right) is a volunteer advocate with KDC and we were delighted that she has been recognised during national Volunteer Week in June.

Debbie volunteers with **TALK** (Talk and Listen Knowsley)

which helps people with disabilities to have their say and be listened to. Debbie's hard work, patience and persistence has helped a young, severely disabled woman to move out of residential care and live independently in her own home.



**A very deserving winner of the KCVS Volunteer of the Year Award!**



Feedback from our recent workshop delivered by family law experts tells us that more and more people are beginning to think

about making arrangements for their family after they have gone.

Lawyers from Birchall Blackburn Law, explained the importance of making a will, irrespective of your financial situation. The session also included how the right form of Trust can protect your loved ones for the rest of their lives and we found out how putting in place Lasting Powers of Attorney can help when it comes to making decisions about care and treatment. A clear message was that making arrangements sooner rather than later can make it so much easier and give you peace of mind.

We will be running another session next year but in the meantime, you can contact **Cathy** or **Rosemary** at **Birchall Blackburn Law** on **0800 614 722**.



●●●●●●● **Support** for you...



# Care Charges Reviews

**Many of our customers have been informed by the Council that the contributions they have to pay towards their care and support will increase.**

The Council's Fairer Charging policy sets out the right for the financial assessment team to review a person's financial circumstances to ensure that the charges are appropriate. If you have received a letter telling you about the new amount you must pay, you must make

sure you arrange to change the regular payments into your direct payments bank account.

If you disagree with your new financial assessment, first of all make sure you get a written breakdown of how the charge has been calculated. Use this to check that all of your eligible expenditure has been taken into account. If you still disagree, contact us for a copy of the policy and information leaflet as well as guidance on how to make an appeal.

## A reminder about dates for Direct Payments support groups

Direct Payments Peer Support Groups meet regularly to swap stories, share experiences and generally find ways to improve things for people using Direct Payments. The meetings are facilitated by KDC but are very much led by the members.

## Here are the details of the next meetings

*Wednesday 12 August 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm  
North Huyton Resource Centre,  
Woolfall Heath Avenue, L36 3TN*

*Wednesday 9 September 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm  
The Caldwell Centre,  
Tarbock Road, Huyton, L36 0SD*

## automatic enrolment

KDC is busy gearing up to ensure we can support you to manage your new responsibilities for pensions.

Changes in the law mean that all employers (including people who have their own PA) must provide and pay into a pension scheme for certain staff.

KDC hosted an information session in May which was well received and we are planning another session in November. Look out for details of this in our Autumn issue as well as information with your pay slips. In the meantime, contact us on **480 4090** if you have any queries.

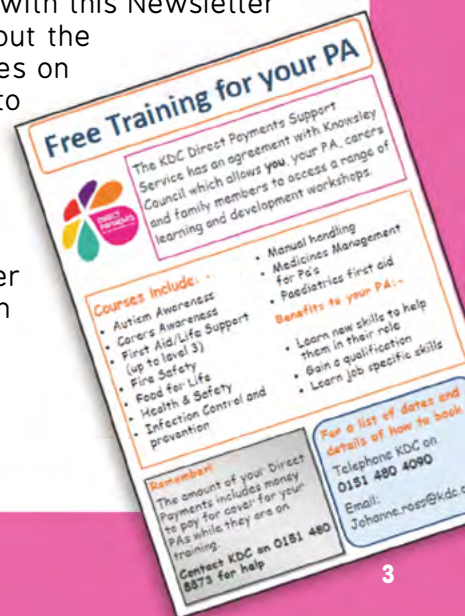
## Free Training

A reminder that KDC has an agreement with Knowsley Council which allows you, your PA, carers and family members to access a range of learning and development workshops.

You will find a leaflet with this Newsletter giving information about the workshops and courses on offer as well as how to book.

Remember, your Direct Payment includes money to cover the cost of cover when your PA goes on training.

Contact us on **480 8873**







# Payroll Points

PAYROLL SUMMARY		NET PAY	
DATE	AMOUNT	DATE	AMOUNT
01/08/15	1,000.00	01/08/15	850.00
02/08/15	1,200.00	02/08/15	1,000.00
03/08/15	1,500.00	03/08/15	1,250.00
04/08/15	1,800.00	04/08/15	1,500.00
05/08/15	2,000.00	05/08/15	1,700.00
06/08/15	2,200.00	06/08/15	1,850.00
07/08/15	2,500.00	07/08/15	2,100.00
08/08/15	2,800.00	08/08/15	2,350.00
09/08/15	3,000.00	09/08/15	2,500.00
10/08/15	3,200.00	10/08/15	2,650.00
11/08/15	3,500.00	11/08/15	2,900.00
12/08/15	3,800.00	12/08/15	3,150.00
13/08/15	4,000.00	13/08/15	3,300.00
14/08/15	4,200.00	14/08/15	3,450.00
15/08/15	4,500.00	15/08/15	3,700.00
16/08/15	4,800.00	16/08/15	3,950.00
17/08/15	5,000.00	17/08/15	4,100.00
18/08/15	5,200.00	18/08/15	4,250.00
19/08/15	5,500.00	19/08/15	4,500.00
20/08/15	5,800.00	20/08/15	4,750.00
21/08/15	6,000.00	21/08/15	4,900.00
22/08/15	6,200.00	22/08/15	5,050.00
23/08/15	6,500.00	23/08/15	5,300.00
24/08/15	6,800.00	24/08/15	5,550.00
25/08/15	7,000.00	25/08/15	5,700.00
26/08/15	7,200.00	26/08/15	5,850.00
27/08/15	7,500.00	27/08/15	6,100.00
28/08/15	7,800.00	28/08/15	6,350.00
29/08/15	8,000.00	29/08/15	6,500.00
30/08/15	8,200.00	30/08/15	6,650.00
31/08/15	8,500.00	31/08/15	6,900.00
32/08/15	8,800.00	32/08/15	7,150.00
33/08/15	9,000.00	33/08/15	7,300.00
34/08/15	9,200.00	34/08/15	7,450.00
35/08/15	9,500.00	35/08/15	7,700.00
36/08/15	9,800.00	36/08/15	7,950.00
37/08/15	10,000.00	37/08/15	8,100.00
38/08/15	10,200.00	38/08/15	8,250.00
39/08/15	10,500.00	39/08/15	8,500.00
40/08/15	10,800.00	40/08/15	8,750.00
41/08/15	11,000.00	41/08/15	8,900.00
42/08/15	11,200.00	42/08/15	9,050.00
43/08/15	11,500.00	43/08/15	9,300.00
44/08/15	11,800.00	44/08/15	9,550.00
45/08/15	12,000.00	45/08/15	9,700.00
46/08/15	12,200.00	46/08/15	9,850.00
47/08/15	12,500.00	47/08/15	10,100.00
48/08/15	12,800.00	48/08/15	10,350.00
49/08/15	13,000.00	49/08/15	10,500.00
50/08/15	13,200.00	50/08/15	10,650.00
51/08/15	13,500.00	51/08/15	10,900.00
52/08/15	13,800.00	52/08/15	11,150.00
53/08/15	14,000.00	53/08/15	11,300.00
54/08/15	14,200.00	54/08/15	11,450.00
55/08/15	14,500.00	55/08/15	11,700.00
56/08/15	14,800.00	56/08/15	11,950.00
57/08/15	15,000.00	57/08/15	12,100.00
58/08/15	15,200.00	58/08/15	12,250.00
59/08/15	15,500.00	59/08/15	12,500.00
60/08/15	15,800.00	60/08/15	12,750.00
61/08/15	16,000.00	61/08/15	12,900.00
62/08/15	16,200.00	62/08/15	13,050.00
63/08/15	16,500.00	63/08/15	13,300.00
64/08/15	16,800.00	64/08/15	13,550.00
65/08/15	17,000.00	65/08/15	13,700.00
66/08/15	17,200.00	66/08/15	13,850.00
67/08/15	17,500.00	67/08/15	14,100.00
68/08/15	17,800.00	68/08/15	14,350.00
69/08/15	18,000.00	69/08/15	14,500.00
70/08/15	18,200.00	70/08/15	14,650.00
71/08/15	18,500.00	71/08/15	14,900.00
72/08/15	18,800.00	72/08/15	15,150.00
73/08/15	19,000.00	73/08/15	15,300.00
74/08/15	19,200.00	74/08/15	15,450.00
75/08/15	19,500.00	75/08/15	15,700.00
76/08/15	19,800.00	76/08/15	15,950.00
77/08/15	20,000.00	77/08/15	16,100.00
78/08/15	20,200.00	78/08/15	16,250.00
79/08/15	20,500.00	79/08/15	16,500.00
80/08/15	20,800.00	80/08/15	16,750.00
81/08/15	21,000.00	81/08/15	16,900.00
82/08/15	21,200.00	82/08/15	17,050.00
83/08/15	21,500.00	83/08/15	17,300.00
84/08/15	21,800.00	84/08/15	17,550.00
85/08/15	22,000.00	85/08/15	17,700.00
86/08/15	22,200.00	86/08/15	17,850.00
87/08/15	22,500.00	87/08/15	18,100.00
88/08/15	22,800.00	88/08/15	18,350.00
89/08/15	23,000.00	89/08/15	18,500.00
90/08/15	23,200.00	90/08/15	18,650.00
91/08/15	23,500.00	91/08/15	18,900.00
92/08/15	23,800.00	92/08/15	19,150.00
93/08/15	24,000.00	93/08/15	19,300.00
94/08/15	24,200.00	94/08/15	19,450.00
95/08/15	24,500.00	95/08/15	19,700.00
96/08/15	24,800.00	96/08/15	19,950.00
97/08/15	25,000.00	97/08/15	20,100.00
98/08/15	25,200.00	98/08/15	20,250.00
99/08/15	25,500.00	99/08/15	20,500.00
100/08/15	25,800.00	100/08/15	20,750.00

**PAYROLL TEAM  
HERE  
TO HELP**



**Joanne Morris**  
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**Sandra Windsor**  
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## Improving our service to you

We will soon be contacting you to collect important information. We want to make sure our records are accurate and up to date in readiness for us to help you manage the new auto-enrolment pensions regulations as part of your payroll service.

We also want to offer more choice around ways of communication. We will be offering access to more electronic forms via our website and we are developing the use of mobile technology to modernise our service. This will enable sending information – including pay slips - which you and your PAs can access via smart phones.



**Please be assured that we are aware that this won't suit everyone and we shall continue to offer a range of ways to receive our services.**

### Important dates for your diary

<b>Date DP received</b>	3 August	<b>Lat date for payroll changes</b>	27 July	<b>Wages Pay Date</b>	10 August
	31 August		24 August		7 September
	28 September		21 September		5 October
	26 October		19 October		2 November
	23 November		16 November		30 November

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

**Do you have any questions about any aspect of direct payments? Have you had an experience – good or bad - which you would like to share? Is there anything you need to know more about?**

If the answer is yes, then contact us here at KDC and we can include your views in our next edition. Contact Joyce on **480 4090** or email her at **joyce.greaves@kdc.org.uk**